

## REMARKS

By way of the present Amendment the first paragraph on page 1 of the application has been amended to emphasis the self propelled feature of the present invention.

The rejection of Claims 1-6 as being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. 112 for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention is hereby respectfully traversed.

Apparently, the objection is bottomed on the fact that the cameras are indicated as "recording" movement etc. To this end, the Examiner has included a page from Merriam-Webster OnLine Dictionary on the word "record" and notes that there seems to be some discrepancy between "record" and the action of a camera.

In answer to the Examiner's position on "record," applicant hereby attaches a page from the Merriam-Webster OnLine Dictionary on the word "camera"; please note that the second definition under "camera" involves "2 a : Camera Obscura" " b: a device that consists of a lightproof chamber with an aperture fitted with a lens and a shutter through which the image of an object is projected onto a surface for recording (as on film) or for translation into electrical impulses (as for television broadcasting)"(emphasis added).

Applicant admits that he has provided "no means such as a disk or tape that may record data from the camera. " However, in view of the inherent "recording" characteristics of a camera, it is felt that Applicant's present disclosure, which included diagrammatic representation of cameras and the flow sheet, is sufficient for the man skilled in the art to understand the features of the present invention.

The Examiner states on Page 2 of the Office Action "it is not clear if Applicant intends for

the camera device to record images as onto a tape or simply to transmit the data to a place where the data can be observed in real time.”

On the other hand, the third sentence of the present application (Page 1, Lines 7 to 12) tell that it is Applicant’s intention to provide inspection, recording and live video feedback to a device operator.

On Page 2 of the Office Action the Examiner goes on to state “for purposes of further examination Examiner will presume Applicant did not intend to record images as onto a tape because Applicant’s have not disclosed means capable of doing so. Instead, Examiner will presume Applicant merely intended the cameras to transmit data for real time observation without a recording means.” Applicant’s vehemently disagree with the Examiner’s interpretation of Applicant’s disclosure and do not assume the presumption of the Examiner. For example, Applicant shows a clear intention to “record” information, Page 1, Line 9. On Page 6, Lines 17 and 18, for example, it is indicated that “the fourth camera is mounted within the drum . . . to record digital mil gauge readings at any given point in time.” The last two lines on Page 6, state: “the cameras also create visual recordings of the mil gauge readings and holiday detection markings for subsequent repair.”

On Page 9, Lines 12 through 14, it is indicated that a mil gauge probe 28 will read the coating thickness on the interior wall of the pipeline, the results of which reading will appear on the digital mil gauge 38.” This same section on Page 9 goes on to state “a camera 36 is positioned inside the non-rotatable drum 16 directly above the mil gauge 38, which camera records the readings shown on the digital mil gauge 38 and provides a real time video to a remote operator (not shown).” (Emphasis added).

In the sentence bridging Pages 9 and 10, of the original specification, it is indicated that “A third camera is located on the top portion of the hub 19 (See Figure 1) and facing the conductive brush 22 such that, as the shaft 18 turns and causes the conductor brush 22 to sweep against the field joint or seam weld on the pipe interior, the third camera 34 records the sweep and provides real time video for the remote operator. The third camera also provides a visual record of any marks made by the holiday Marker 24 when a void or holiday is detected by the conductive brush 22.” (Emphasis added)

On Page 10, Lines 3 through 6, it is indicated “The fourth camera 30 is mounted on the bottom portion of the hub 19 and positioned to view the slidable plunger 26 and mil gauge 28 such that the movements and readings of the mil gauge 28 are digitally recorded and may be monitored by a remote operator.” (Emphasis added)

In summation, on the “record” argument, Applicant intends to record and transmit for real time observation. The mere fact that Applicant does not disclose a tape recorder connected to a camera is not significant; Applicant has clearly indicated that his camera “records.” Surely the Examiner will concede that there are cameras which have internal recording means as well as the ability to transmit information for real time observation.

The rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McLean (U.S. Patent No. 3,039,428) in view of Gieger (U.S. patent No. 5,947,051) is hereby respectfully traversed. The Examiner states that McLean discloses a pipeline vehicle with conductive brushes 17 that will emit sparks when encountering voids or holiday areas 21 which activate the device to apply paint to the area (Claim 1). The Examiner admits that McLean does not teach a probe on a slidable plunger that measures coating thickness nor a camera at the device

front.

In order to compensate for the deficiencies of the McLean reference, the Examiner states that Gieger discloses a device for inspecting pipeline 10 coating featuring camera 35 at an end of the device which may be considered the front and thickness gauge 267 mounted on enclosure 44 which is put in position against the surface to be inspected by ram 52. The ram appears to comprise sliding members.

The Examiner, in combining the teachings of these two references, states: it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a forward camera which may be “used for navigation and guidance” to a location of interest. The McLean patent shows a holiday detector for detecting the internal coating of pipelines and repairs the holidays with an attached spraying apparatus. McLean is a manual lance operation that requires physical control of the lance to move through the pipeline. This limits the distance that McLean can travel into a pipeline, unlike the present invention which is self powered. The majority of the McLean apparatus is not capable of entering the pipe, but only the head assembly portion can be inserted into the pipe.

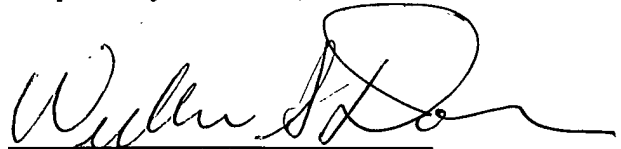
The Gieger patent is a somewhat cumbersome document containing 59 sheets of drawings and 46 columns of written material. Gieger seems to pertain to an underwater self propelled vehicle adapted primarily to work on underwater hulls. There is no suggestion that Gieger could be used in a pipeline, as Applicant is claiming. Nor is there any suggestion in either reference that Gieger might be provided with a conductive brush that sweeps against the weld seam and emits a spark when a void is encountered; or to provide McLean with a thickness gauge mounted on a slidable ram in order to engage the surface and determine what the coating

thickness might be.

The prior art, considered as a whole, does not disclose or suggest the subject matter of Claim 1. The Examiner, in combining the teachings of McLean and Geiger, has taken bits and pieces from the prior art and attempted to combine them to create Applicant's invention. However, it is well recognized that where a combination invention can only be arrived at by combining various components described in separate prior art references, there must be some reason for the combination: a teaching, a motivation, an incentive or a suggestion. *In re: Laskowski*, 871 F.2d 115, 117, 10 USPQ 2d. 1397, 1397 (Fed. Cir., 1989). No motivation or incentive has been proven.

The allowance of Claims 2 through 6 is hereby gratefully acknowledged. However, it is respectfully requested that the requirement for rewriting Claims 2 through 6 in independent form be deferred pending Examiner's consideration of this Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William S. Dorman', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

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**Certificate of Mailing**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above Amendment was mailed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA., 22313-1450 on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2006.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William S. Dorman", written over a horizontal line.

William S. Dorman

FEB 10 2006



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Thesaurus

## camera

11 entries found for **camera**. The first 10 are listed below.  
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Main Entry: **cam·era** Ⓢ

Pronunciation: 'kam-r&, 'ka-m&r-&

Function: *noun*

Etymology: Late Latin, room -- more at [CHAMBER](#)

**1** : the treasury department of the papal curia

**2 a** : [CAMERA OBSCURA](#) **b** : a device that consists of a lightproof chamber with an aperture fitted with a lens and a shutter through which the image of an object is projected onto a surface for recording (as on film) or for translation into electrical impulses (as for television broadcast)

- **on camera** : before a live television camera

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